

Senate File 270 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 270

BY COURNOYER

(COMPANION TO HF 192 BY MOHR)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
2 awareness and prevention.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 46, paragraph a, Code
2 2021, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Develop and make available to school districts, examples
4 of age-appropriate and research-based materials and lists
5 of resources which parents may use to teach their children
6 to recognize unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
7 to not make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
8 to effectively reject unwanted sexual advances, that it is
9 wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person, about
10 the dangers of sexual exploitation by means of the internet
11 including specific strategies to help students protect
12 themselves and their personally identifiable information
13 from such exploitation, and about counseling, medical, and
14 legal resources available to survivors of sexual abuse and
15 sexual assault, including resources for escaping violent
16 relationships. The materials and resources shall cover verbal,
17 physical, and visual sexual harassment, including nonconsensual
18 sexual advances, ~~and nonconsensual physical sexual contact,~~
19 and child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and
20 prevention. In developing the materials and resource list, the
21 director shall consult with entities that shall include but not
22 be limited to the departments of human services, public health,
23 and public safety, education stakeholders, and parent-teacher
24 organizations. School districts shall provide age-appropriate
25 and research-based materials and a list of available community
26 and internet-based resources to parents at registration and
27 shall also include the age-appropriate and research-based
28 materials and resource list in the student handbook. School
29 districts are encouraged to work with their communities to
30 provide voluntary parent education sessions to provide parents
31 with the skills and appropriate strategies to teach their
32 children as described in [this subsection](#). School districts
33 shall incorporate the age-appropriate and research-based
34 materials into relevant curricula and shall reinforce the
35 importance of preventive measures when reasonable with parents

1 and students.

2 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, Code 2021, is amended by adding the
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 24. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
5 establishing continuing education requirements for renewal of a
6 license, certificate, statement of professional recognition, or
7 authorization. Continuing education activities may include but
8 are not limited to participating in or presenting at in-service
9 training programs on child sexual abuse and sexual assault
10 awareness and prevention.

11 Sec. 3. Section 279.50, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 2. Each school board shall provide age-appropriate and
14 research-based instruction in human growth and development
15 including instruction regarding human the following:

16 a. Human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management,
17 interpersonal relationships, domestic abuse, HPV and the
18 availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and acquired immune
19 deficiency syndrome as required in [section 256.11](#), in grades
20 one through twelve.

21 b. Child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness
22 and prevention in kindergarten through grade twelve, and in
23 prekindergarten if the school district offers a prekindergarten
24 program.

25 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
26 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
27 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
28 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
29 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
30 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
31 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
32 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
33 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
34 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
35 districts.

1 EXPLANATION

2 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
3 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

4 This bill relates to child sexual abuse and sexual assault
5 awareness and prevention by providing that continuing education
6 activities authorized by the board of educational examiners
7 for purposes of renewing a license, certificate, statement
8 of professional recognition, or authorization may include
9 participating in or presenting at in-service training programs
10 on child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and
11 prevention. The bill also requires school districts to provide
12 age-appropriate and research-based instruction in child sexual
13 abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention as part
14 of its human growth and development instruction in kindergarten
15 through grade 12, and in prekindergarten if the school district
16 offers a prekindergarten program.

17 Currently, the director of the department of education has a
18 duty to develop and make available to school districts examples
19 of age-appropriate and research-based materials. The bill
20 specifies that the age-appropriate and research-based materials
21 and resources shall also cover child sexual abuse and child
22 sexual assault awareness and prevention.

23 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
24 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
25 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
26 district from state school foundation aid received by the
27 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
28 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
29 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
30 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
31 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
32 mandates included in the bill.